Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the Abstract on page 43 with the following new Abstract:

A surgical restoration kit for treating congestive heart failure. The kit includes multiple components such as a shaping device, a deployment tool for deploying and retrieving the shaping device, a surgical repair patch, and elongate suture. The elongate suture has three sections that when properly cinched down in heart tissue forms a non-circular purse-string stitch.

Please replace the paragraph starting at line 20 on page 2 with the following:

[0001] This application claims priority from the following U.S. Provisional Patent Applications each of which is incorporated herein in its entirety by reference: Serial Number 60/466,653, filed Apr. 29, 2003 and titled *Ventricular Restoration*; Serial Number 60/485,568, filed Jul. 7, 2003 and titled *Systems, Devices and Methods of Use for Treating Congestive Heart Failure (CHF)*; Serial Number 60/488,292, filed Jul. 18, 2003 and titled Ventricular Sizing & Shaping Device and Method; Serial Number 60/499,946, filed Sep. 2, 2003 and titled *System and Method of Use to Employ Imaging Technology for Diagnosis, Measurement, Standardization, and Follow-up of Disease Processes and Determine Optimal Treatment*; Serial No. 60/500,761, filed September 3, 2003, titled *Ventricular Sizing and Shaping Device and Method*; Serial Number 60/500,762, filed Sep. 4, 2003 and titled *Shaping Suture Device and Method of Use*; Serial Number 60/512,293, filed Oct. 17, 2003 and titled *Less Invasive CHF Treatment--Reshaping the Heart*; Serial Number 60/518,270, filed Nov. 5, 2003 and titled *Methods and Devices for Tracking Acute Myocardial Infarction*; and Serial Number 60/534,514, filed Jan. 5, 2004 and titled *Squeeze Patch*. This application also claims priority from and is a continuation-in-part from co-pending U.S. patent application Serial Number 10/785,486, filed Feb. 17, 2004 and titled *Patches and Collars for Medical Applications and Methods of Use*, which claims priority from and is a continuation from U.S. patent application Serial Number 10/224,659, filed Apr. 23, 2001 and titled *Arteriotomy Closure Device and Techniques*, which claims priority from U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial Number 60/286,269, filed Apr. 24, 2001 and titled

Percutaneous Vessel Access Closure Device and Method; from U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial Number 60/300,892, filed Jun. 25, 2001 and titled *Percutaneous Vessel Access Closure Device and Method*; and from U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial Number 60/302,255, filed Jun. 28, 2001 and titled Percutaneous *Vessel Access Closure Device and Method (Hemostatic Patch or Collar)* each of which is incorporated herein in its entirety by reference. This application also claims priority from and is a continuation-in-part from co-pending U.S. patent application Serial Number 10/183,396, filed Jun. 28, 2002 and titled *Patches and Collars for Medical Applications and Methods of Use*, which claims priority from and is a continuation-in-part from U.S. patent application Serial Number 10/127,714, filed on Apr. 23, 2002, which claims priority from U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/286,269, filed Apr. 24, 2001 and titled *Percutaneous Vessel Access Closure Device and Method*; from U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial Number 60/300,892, filed Jun. 25, 2001 and titled *Percutaneous Vessel Access Closure Device and Method*; and from U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial Number 60/302,255, filed Jun. 28, 2001 and titled *Percutaneous Vessel Access Closure Device and Method (Hemostatic Patch or Collar)*, each of which is incorporated herein in its entirety by reference.

Please replace paragraph [0112] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0112] The patch 12 may include an atraumatic tissue contacting surface (e.g., such as ePTFE or woven Dacron.RTM.) that may optionally be provided with an adhesive on or near the tissue contacting surface. The device may include one or more layers (e.g., in the form of a strip, band, wire, tube, rod, mesh, etc.) of superelastic/shape memory material, or other reinforcing material as previously disclosed herein. The superelastic/shape memory material may be annealed in any configuration as required or desired such that when deflected or forced from its annealed configuration, it will have a tendency to return to its annealed configuration. Multiple strips or strip ends may be independent, or attached to one another or a combination of both. The ends may be attached to each other by using a mesh, single or multiple strips, bands, wires, and/or tubes. The attachment(s) may be elastic, semi elastic, rigid, or have a combination of these properties. The attachment may be made by using any of the methods described herein or using any commonly known technique. The rigidity, flexibility, closure, and/or compressive

force of the device 12 may be modified by varying, for example, the device's geometry, thickness, material, component(s), or processing.

Please replace paragraph [0118] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0118] The kit of the present invention may also comprise a shaping suture 14. In one embodiment, the shaping suture 14 of this invention, illustrated in FIG. 13, comprises an elongate filament comprising a suture element 100 with needles 102 at either end, with an annealed 104 portion positioned generally centrally. When properly placed and deployed, the shaping suture 14, placed as a circular purse-string, would form a non-circular reduction, such as one having a tear-dropped or oval shape. This device would selectively allow decrease in one dimension while having a lesser impact on another dimension. Thus, this aspect of the invention comprises a shaping suture 14 that can be placed in tissue like a standard, double-armed, purse-string suture, but when properly cinched down in the tissue, takes on a distinctly non-circular shape, such as a conical, ovoid, or elliptical one, even if applied to a circular defect.

Please replace paragraph [0120] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0120] Instead of a circular purse-string, which when tightened would only create a smaller sphere out of the ventricle, this shaping suture 14 would have the effect of decreasing the ventricular wall-size in the short axis (cross-sectional dimension), while leaving the long axis only slightly impacted. This would result in a conical (more normal and therefore more physiologic) reshaping of a previously spherical chamber.

Please replace paragraph [0122] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0122] In one embodiment, this shaping suture 14 may have built-in, profound short axis reduction, with controllably less long axis shortening. The device may be designed in a relevant range of sizes. The optimal size and shape of the ventricle can be predetermined through a process that can allow selection of the ideal device, implanted over a pre-shaped shaping

device 10. This can allow a standardized surgical procedure that can imprint pre-planned ideal dimensions on a reconstructed ventricle with less operator variation.

Please replace paragraph [0127] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0127] The shaping suture 14 may also comprise one or more sections that are wires, rods, tubes, coils, sheets, strips, bands, or any combination or other suitable geometry. The device 14 may be of any suitable length and may have any suitable needle size or shape. The suture element 100 may be monofilament or braided, coated or uncoated, absorbable or non-absorbable. It may be of any appropriate thickness, and may have different strengths for different sized nitinol nooses 104. The transition elements 108 may be long or very short.

Please replace paragraph [131] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0131] The shaping suture 14 may be treated in a variety of conventional or unconventional ways such as coating, jacketing, over molding, dipping, spraying, casting, or combinations thereof. Such layers, coatings, or other materials may be intended to provide a softer contact area, adhesives, provide a drug elution layer, or the like.

Please replace paragraph [0142] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0142] Referring to FIGS. 18 and 18A, one embodiment of the inventive kit may further comprise a template device 130 for sizing the patch 12. In one embodiment, the template device comprises a handle member 132 and a template member 134. The template member 134 may be removably connected to the handle member 132 such that different template members 134 can be used with one handle 132 and different handles 132 with one template member 134.